



Attorney Docket No. 50269-0026

Patent

11/16
8/27/03
H.M.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 3744

Michael E. Palmer, et al.

Group Art Unit No.: 2176

Serial No.: 09/333,121

Examiner: Charles A. Bieneman

Filed: June 14, 1999

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For: METHOD AND APPARATUS
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AMENDMENT/ RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 23, 2003 (paper #11), the shortened statutory period for which runs until August 23, 2003, and the Advisory Office Action mailed July 21, 2003 (paper #14). The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the remarks below.

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 14, 17 – 19, and 26 – 34 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,835,905, herein *Pirolli*, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,906,422, herein *Prasad*.

Claims 15 – 16 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pirolli* and *Prasad*, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,549, herein *Hoffert*.